

Labourers' Home Enfranchisement (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Clause.

1. Ascertainment of price.
 2. Issue of schedule, notices and forms of agreement to purchase.
 3. Distribution of notices and forms and return of the latter.
 4. Completion of purchase and issue of vesting order.
 5. Registration free of cost.
 6. Transfer of liability and commencement of new relations.
 7. Discretionary postponement of commencement of payments.
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 9. Removal of restriction imposed by 6 Edw. 7. c. 37. s. 19.
 10. Similar option to be offered in subsequent years.
 11. Short title.
 12. Commencement of Act.
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TO

Transfer to the Irish Land Commission the debts and powers of collection of District Councils in Ireland under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, and to enable labourers to purchase their cottages and plots. A.D. 1911.

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

- 5 1. The Local Government Board for Ireland shall have an account taken, *as from the thirtieth day of September nineteen hundred and eleven*, of all sums for which district councils in Ireland shall then stand liable in respect of labourers' cottages and plots provided under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts at that time
 10 occupied *bonâ fide* in accordance with those Acts; and, after making all deductions to which each district council would be entitled under the Labourers Acts in respect of the same, ascertain the net balance due in respect of each cottage and plot. *On the provisions of this Act being complied with, the Irish Land Com-*
 15 *mission shall assume two-thirds of that net balance to be expenditure on the improvement of land, and shall discharge it as such under section twelve of the Irish Land Act, 1903, and sections twenty-eight, twenty-nine, and thirty of the Irish Land Act, 1909. The remaining one-third of the net balance shall be*
 20 *the price, and shall be assumed and treated by the Irish Land Commission as an advance under the Land Purchase Acts, repayable by the occupant of the cottage and plot for the time being in the same manner and with the same interest as advances are or may be repayable under those Acts.*

Ascertainment of price.

3 Edw. 7.
c. 37. s. 12.
3 Edw. 7.
c. 42, ss. 28,
29, 30.

[Bill 25.]

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A.D. 1911.

Issue of
schedule
notices and
forms of
agreement to
purchase.

2. The Local Government Board for Ireland shall furnish each district council with a schedule of all the labourers' homes in its district provided under the Labourers Acts and their respective prices so ascertained, together with copies of a notice to be served on all the occupants thereof, and suitable forms of agreement to purchase. The notice shall inform each occupant of his right, at his option, to continue as a tenant to the district council, or to become a purchaser of his cottage and plot at the price specified in the schedule, repayable by half-yearly instalments or larger sums, subject to the provisions of the Land Purchase Acts, and of this Act, including the provision to maintain the cottage in a safe and wholesome condition to the satisfaction of the Local Government Board; but not subject to either succession duty or stamp duty in case of devolution from father to son.

Distribution
of notices
and forms
and return of
the latter.

3. Each district council shall, immediately on receipt of the schedule, notices and forms, have a notice and form served upon each scheduled occupant; and shall afterwards collect all the forms of purchase agreement executed by occupants and return them to the Local Government Board within one month from the date of the receipt of them by the council.

Completion
of purchase
and issue of
vesting
order.

4. On receipt and verification of the purchase agreements thus executed, the Local Government Board shall forward all of them that are in order, with a schedule of them, to the Irish Land Commission, who shall forthwith issue a vesting order to every such occupant as a purchaser subject to the specified price to be paid by annuities as advances are or may be payable under the Land Purchase Acts for the time being.

Registration
free of cost.

5. Contemporaneously with the issue of each vesting order, the Land Commission shall send a copy of that order to the registering authority under the Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act, 1891; and the title so acquired by the occupying purchaser shall be registered forthwith free of cost and free of stamp duty.

54 & 55 Vict.
c. 66.

Transfer of
liability and
commence-
ment of new
relations.

6. Thereupon all financial liability in respect of the cottage and plot so dealt with shall depart from the council and attach to the Irish Land Commission, and the council's debt shall be reduced to that extent; the relations between the council and the occupant in respect of the same shall cease, and the occupant shall be a purchaser at the specified price payable by annuities or by larger

annus as in the case of other purchasers under the Land Purchase Acts, subject to the provisions of those Acts and of this Act. A.D. 1911.

7. The Irish Land Commission may, on the application of the purchaser, if satisfied with his personal or other security, 5 postpone the commencement of the payment of annuities for twelve months after the completion of the purchase and until the next succeeding gale day after the expiration of those twelve months, and then and on each subsequent gale day demand only a half-yearly instalment.

Discretionary postponement of commencement of payments.

10 8. A labourer's cottage and the plot appurtenant thereto so dealt with shall, except with the consent of the Irish Land Commission, be inseparable as regards occupation and ownership, and inalienable jointly or separately except to an agricultural labourer as defined by the Labourers (Ireland) Acts.

Provisions against separation and alienation.

15 9. The words from "that" to "and," inclusive, in the proviso to section nineteen of the Labourers (Ireland) Act, 1906, shall not apply to purchasers under this Act.

Removal of restriction imposed by 6 Edw. 7. c. 37 s. 19.

10. The Local Government Board for Ireland shall have a similar account taken as from *the thirtieth day of September* in 20 each year, and the same schedule, notices and forms shall be supplied and the same proceedings taken in respect of cottages and plots completed and occupied *bonâ fide* at that date in each year; and each occupant shall be given an option of continuing as tenant to the district council or becoming a purchaser of his 25 cottage and plot at the prices specified in the schedule; and in the cases of all who execute the forms of agreement the purchases shall be completed and the same consequences shall follow in all respects as in the cases dealt with this year.

Similar option to be offered in subsequent years.

11. This Act may be cited as the Labourers' Home 30 Enfranchisement (Ireland) Act, 1911.

Short title.

12. This Act shall come into operation on *the passing thereof.* Commencement of Act.

Labourers' Home Enfranchisement (Ireland).

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To transfer to the Irish Land Commission the debts and powers of collection of District Councils in Ireland under the Labourers (Ireland) Acts, and to enable labourers to purchase their cottages and plots.

Presented by Mr. Ginnell.

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